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**MAILED**

**AUG 29 2011**

**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Patent No. 6,197,073	:	
Issue Date: March 6, 2001	:	
Application No. 08/958,865	:	ON PETITION
Filed: October 27, 1997	:	
Attorney Docket No. 241797/33147	:	

This is a decision on the letter received May 12, 2011 which will be treated as a petition under 37 CFR 1.378(c), filed January 28, 2011, to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance.

The petition is **DISMISSED**.

If reconsideration of this decision is desired, a petition for reconsideration under 37 CFR 1.378(e) must be filed within TWO (2) MONTHS from the mail date of this decision. No extension of this two-month time limit can be granted under 37 CFR 1.136(a) or (b). This is **not** a final agency action within the meaning of 5 U.S.C. § 704.

Any petition for reconsideration of this decision must be accompanied by the petition fee of \$400 as set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(f). The petition for reconsideration must include the lacking item(s) noted above, since, after a decision on the petition for reconsideration, no further reconsideration or review of the matter will be undertaken by the Commissioner.

A petition to accept the unintentionally delayed payment of a maintenance fee under 35 U.S.C. § 41(c) and 37 CFR 1.378(c) must be accompanied by: (1) a statement that the delay was unintentional; (2) payment of the appropriate maintenance fee, unless previously submitted; (3) payment of the surcharge set forth in 37 CFR 1.20(i)(2). This petition lacks item (1) above.

As to item (1) the statement of unintentional delay is presently not acceptable since the petition not signed by all of the inventors. See 37 CFR 1.33(b) which states:

(b) Amendments and other papers. Amendments and other papers, except for written assertions pursuant to § 1.27(c)(2)(ii) of this part, filed in the application must be signed by:

- (1) A registered patent attorney or patent agent of record appointed in compliance with § 1.32(b);
- (2) A registered patent attorney or patent agent not of record who acts in a representative capacity under the provisions of § 1.34;
- (3) An assignee as provided for under § 3.71(b) of this chapter; or
- (4) All of the applicants (§ 1.41(b)) for patent, unless there is an assignee of the entire interest and such assignee has taken action in the application in accordance with § 3.71 of this chapter.

Petitioner may consider filing a petition under 37 CFR 1.378 (b) under the unavoidable provisions. See attached form.

If petitioner does not wish to pursue reinstatement of this expired patent, petitioner may request a refund of the \$2055 maintenance fee and the \$1,640 surcharge fee submitted with the petition. The request should be made in writing and addressed to: Mail Stop 16, Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. A copy of this decision should accompany petitioner's request.

Further correspondence with respect to this matter should be addressed as follows:

By Mail:                      Mail Stop PETITION  
                                    Commissioner for Patents  
                                    Post Office Box 1450  
                                    Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

By hand:                     U. S. Patent and Trademark Office  
                                    Customer Service Window, Mail Stop Petitions  
                                    Randolph Building  
                                    401 Dulany Street  
                                    Alexandria, VA 22314

The centralized facsimile number is (571) 273-8300.

Telephone inquiries should be directed to the Kimberly Inabinet at (571) 272-4618.

/Kimberly Inabinet/  
Kimberly Inabinet  
Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions